

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



ROBERT J. GAFFNEY
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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NWIRP CALVERTON NY
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

MARY E. HIBBERD, M.D., M.P.H.
COMMISSIONER

June 8, 1995

Mr. James Colter
Department of the Navy, Northern Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
10 Industrial Highway
Main Stop #82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Dear Mr. Colter:

RE: RCRA FACILITY INVESTIGATION REPORT, NWIRP CALVERTON (#152136)

On behalf of the Suffolk County Department of Health Services, I would like to offer the following comments on the draft RCRA Facility Investigation for NWIRP Calverton, New York (Site #152136) prepared by Halliburton NUS Corp. (April 1995):

Executive Summary

- The Executive Summary is overly long, and contains too much background information (e.g., on lithofacies).
- The Surface Water Hydrology and Hydrogeology sections should note that the NWIRP straddles the groundwater divide, so that the direction of shallow groundwater flow will vary from SE on the southern portion to E on the divide and NE on the northern portion of the site.
- The Water Supply section should be revised to reflect the fact that the Shorewood Water Company was taken over by the Suffolk County Water Authority in 1993 (also page 3-7).

Northeast Pond Disposal Area

- The conclusions on the northeast pond disposal area (pages ES-10 and 4-114) should be revised to reflect the new Federal MCL for total chromium (100 ug/l).
- The statement (pages ES-11 and 4-114) "because of the low hydraulic gradient at the site and relatively immobile nature of the chemicals present, extensive vertical and horizontal contamination beyond that tested would not be expected" cannot be supported by the present data, and should be deleted. The potential risks posed by the site through the groundwater route should be evaluated after the contaminated soil, sediments, and TCA drum are removed, and post-cleanup monitoring is conducted.

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- The report states (ES-9) that groundwater in the shallow aquifer probably discharges to the pond; this is contrary to the conclusion in Section 4.5.3 (page 4-88) and is not supported by the pond sediment data, which show decreasing concentrations with depth.

Fire Training Area

- The statement (page ES-16) that "because of the low hydraulic gradient at the site, extensive horizontal contamination beyond that tested would not be expected" should be deleted.
- The installation of additional monitoring wells to the south and east of MW05 is essential to defining the region of groundwater contamination and defining remediation needs.

Fuel Calibration Area

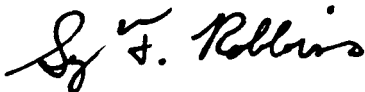
- The statement (page ES-20) that "because of the low hydraulic gradient at the site, extensive horizontal contamination beyond that tested would not be expected" should be deleted.
- The origin and extent of groundwater VOC contamination detected in MW-02 need to be defined.

Fuel Depot Area

- The statement (page ES-20) that "because of the low hydraulic gradient at the site, extensive horizontal contamination beyond that tested would not be expected" should be deleted.

I trust these suggestions and concerns will be taken into account in revising the draft report and designing any future studies and actions. The SCDHS would like the opportunity to comment on future work prior to implementation. If you want to discuss these comments further, contact me at (516) 853-3196.

Very truly yours,



Sy F. Robbins, C.P.G.
County Hydrogeologist
Division of Environmental Quality

cc: A. Shah, NYSDEC Region 1
D. Pratt, NYSDEC Albany
T. Vickerson, NYSDOH
G. Proios, Co. Exec.